

## TRUNK AND BOX MYSTERIES.

In Every Case But One a Box Murder Has Been Discovered.

To commit a murder is comparatively easy. The difficulty comes in when the crime has to be concealed. Where the identification of the victim must lead to the discovery of the assassin, the difficulty is increased.

At first sight the hiding of the body in the box would seem to be an easy and ready mode of disposal, provided always that the box and its contents can be kept sufficiently long to render identification impossible. As a matter of fact, however, in every case—with one exception—where a box has been employed discovery has followed.

Although England sets the example in regard to box crimes, it is to the Continent, one must go for the majority of cases. In Paris, in the year 1832, a bank porter named Rambois was poisoned by his friend Regey. The head was placed in a box and thrown in the Seine, to be fished up almost immediately afterwards by a party of boatmen.

In 1850 a well known dealer in art bronzes, named Poirier Desfontaines, an old bachelor, was murdered by his servant, one Vion. Desfontaines' assassin sent the evidence of his crime in a trunk to Chatcaurox, to be left till called for. There was no trace of Vion to be found, and he was only captured by an ingenious use of the public journals, devised by the celebrated Detective Canler. Canler had a paragraph inserted to the effect that all search for the criminal would be useless, seeing that he had managed to escape into Spain. Believing that the police had abandoned pursuit, Vion imprudently showed himself in Paris and was apprehended.

A few years later Victor Dombay imitated Vion's exploit, for he also dispatched his victim in a trunk, "to be left till called for." This time the burden went to Lyons, and when the body was found suspicion fell upon Dombay's friend Calloux, who had bought the wooden case and had trundled it to the railway station not knowing what it contained. Dombay's guilt was brought home to him.

The murder of Gouffe by Jean Eyraud and Gabrielle Bompard was one of the most deliberately diabolical conceptions that can be cited. But in spite of their elaborate precautions the guilt of the assassins was established.

America can claim two notable instances of box crimes. In 1841 a man named Samuel Adams was murdered by John C. Colt, a bookkeeper and teacher of ornamental writing, in an office in Broadway. The remains were placed in a box and shipped on board a vessel bound for New Orleans. But Nemesis followed, as with other crimes of the same kind. The vessel was unexpectedly delayed for a week and the nature of the hideous contents of the packing case was revealed.

The other instance is that of Alice Augusta Bowlsby, a charming and beautiful young woman, in whose death a doctor was implicated. Here was a good deal of mystery in the affair. A woman, accompanied by a big trunk, alighted from a cab at the terminus of the Harlem River Railway and asked to have the trunk sent on to Chicago. When she found that there was no train that night she instantly fled, leaving the trunk behind her. The murderer was speedily discovered and the doctor in question apprehended through pieces of the victim's garments marked with her initials being discovered by the authorities in his house.

America can also boast of a terrible use to which a trunk was put by the stupendous villain Holmes, who murdered wholesale. He utilized a trunk not merely to conceal the bodies of his victims, but actually to take their lives. They were first drugged, then placed in a trunk attached to a tube connected with an ordinary gas pipe and thus poisoned.

The box crime in England was revived in 1872 by Rev. John Selby Watson, who, in a fit of passion, murdered his wife and purchased a trunk to conceal the deed. He was judged insane and he ended his days in Broadmoor.

The Harley street mystery of 1878, where the dead body of a woman was found in the cellar of one of the mansions in this well-known thoroughfare, was never solved; but the case hardly comes within the category of a box crime, as the receptacle employed was a cask. On the other hand, the case of Arthur Deveraux, the chemist, who murdered his wife and two children, is quite a typical example. Deveraux introduced a new feature to get rid of the obvious risks of discovery. He filled the trunk with cement, and, in addition, took the most elaborate precautions. Underneath the box lid was another of wooden sections, neatly fitted together, and with crossbars screwed, the whole thing glued, sized and varnished. Notwithstanding all these precautions Deveraux's guilt was brought home to him.

## AN EXPENSIVE LETTER.

A Fresh Drummer Gets a Calling Down by a Stenographer.

A gentleman related the following incident which happened at a well known hotel in a certain city: "In the hotel there is a stenographer, and one day not long ago a drummer asked her to write for him. During the dictation the drummer would intersperse addressed to the young stenographer she was good looking, such fool talk. She only until the letter was written was only one page. He asked her how she liked it and she calmly said, 'It is very good, but I don't like the way you write.' 'Oh, my dear lady,' said the drummer, 'but I don't care for your opinion.' 'You say he paid up, just of his fresh drum right, too.'"

## NO COMPROMISE PROPOSED.

Richland Distillery Case Unsettled. Commission's Work About Over.

Columbia, Nov. 4.—Special: A denial that any official offer of compromise has been made in the Richland distillery case was made here this afternoon.

It is understood that the dispensary winding-up commission has about closed up its work, and that it will have an interesting report to submit to the General Assembly. The commission has made a number of excellent settlements and, with the payment of \$15,000 by the Grabfelder Company, the only large claim that is outstanding is said to be that against the Richland Distillery Company. In the first announcements that were made it was said that this claim would run up to nearly three-quarters of a million dollars, but it now appears that later figures have reduced this claim to about \$300,000.

It was also stated that the commission had an offer of a compromise of something around \$100,000. An announcement has just been made that this is a mistake, and that no official offer of compromise has been made to the commission and that no such settlement has been authorized.

It is figured that the commission, with the co-operation and hard work of Attorney General Lyon, has collected fully half a million dollars in the way of claims for overcharges. The commission and its attorneys are now hard at work trying to push all outstanding claims to settlement or to the Courts.

## INSPECT MARION SITES.

Official of Government Does Not Give Out Information.

Marion, Nov. 4.—Geo. O. Von Nerta, site agent, was in Marion today for the purpose of inspecting the postoffice building. Marion hopes to get in a few years. Besides inspecting the lots Von Nerta paid a visit to the office of the county auditor to ascertain at what value the several properties were returned. As Von Nerta did not commit himself in any way, nothing could be learned as to what lot will be recommended. His coming to Marion is a sequence of the obtaining at the last session of congress by J. E. Ellebe an appropriation of \$10,000 for the purpose of purchasing a site for a postoffice in the town of Marion.

The Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York is making some changes in this territory and they desire to obtain the services of an active agent for Dillon and surrounding territory. A district agency proposition will be offered to the right man. Communicate with F. H. Hyatt, manager, Columbia, S. C. for particulars. 100-27-1t

## Auction Sales.

F. Watkins, auctioneer, will conduct sales of real estate, merchandise, household furniture, horses, mules, wagoas, buggies or any other real or personal property at such times as will suit the convenience of the public. Special sale of horses and mules every first Monday. Satisfaction guaranteed and the highest possible price obtained for your property. Terms reasonable. Best auctioneer in the south.

## F. Watkins,

Dropsy—  
Given up by Doctor

"I had dropsy, and was told by my family physician that there was no chance for me. My family also gave me up. My limbs and body were swollen one-third larger than natural, water collected around my heart and I had to be propped up in bed to keep from smothering. I took Dr. Miles' Heart Remedy until I was entirely cured. This was in 1902, and I am now able to do any kind of work on my farm. My cure was certainly marvelous."

L. TURLEY CURD,  
Wilmore, Ky.

Dr. Miles' Heart Remedy has been wonderfully successful in relieving heart trouble. Its tonic effect upon the heart nerves and muscles is a great factor in assisting nature to overcome heart weakness.

Dr. Miles' Heart Remedy is sold by all druggists. If the first bottle does not benefit, your druggist will return your money.

MILES MEDICAL CO., BOSTON, IND.

## Dillon Storage Co.

We wish to store your cotton at 25 cents a bale per month. Cotton is too valuable to risk fire, stealing and rotting. We carry insurance to the full value of cotton in warehouse and you can borrow money on our receipts.

We carry a full line of fertilizers for oats; mixed fertilizer, kainit, acid phosphate and cotton seed meal. Prices right and it pays to liberally fertilize oat crops.

We buy cotton seed or exchange meal for seed. We handle car load seed as well as wagon seed and it will pay you to see us before selling.

We are agents for Peruvian guano and all kinds of fertilizers and we hope to quote you prices for 1911.

## Dillon Storage Co.

## JUST RECEIVED

A large shipment of Fall Dry goods. Full line of the best shoes for men, women and children especially for school children. Our line of groceries always complete. Mens and boys clothing, in fact a complete and up-to-date general merchandise. Your patronage solicited.

W. M. FORD, Pages Mill, S. C.

## A NEW INSURANCE PROPOSITION

Participating policies at less than non-participating rates embodied in the guaranteed fifty per cent. Mortuary Dividend Policy of the PHILADELPHIA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This policy guarantees your insurance for 15 or 20 years at half price.

Guarantees a policy increasing each year in value as claim.

Guarantees a loan of 30 per cent. of the premium every year from date of issue.

Guarantees the full amount of the policy besides paying the loan in case of death.

Guarantees paid-up cash surrender values and extended insurance after the third year.

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An individual account with each policy of the company.

Company owned by its policyholders.

A policy without restrictions.

Prompt payment of claims.

Assets invested in non-fluctuating securities.

A square deal for everybody.

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W. H. L. McLAURIN, District Agent, Latta, S. C.

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"EVERITT 30"

Large and Roomy, Powerful Long Stroke.

"The Lightning Big Car," made in regular 5 passenger touring car, four door 5 passenger touring car, four door 4 passenger touring car, Berni Tonneau 4 passenger touring car, Tonneau detachable and convertible to Roadster.

PRICE \$1,350.

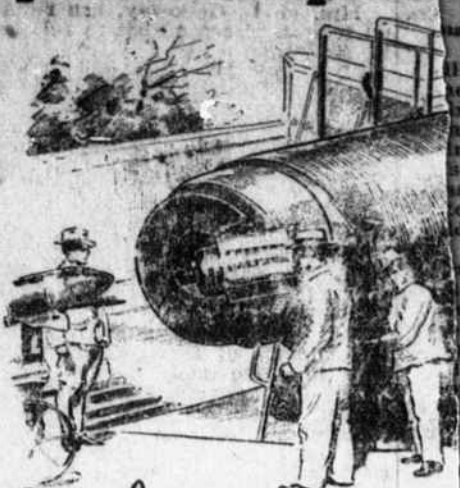
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The Hardware, Buggy and Wagon people. Agents Dillon county.

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High Investment Earnings—Low Lapse Rate.

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

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realized 69 per cent. interest and investment profit during 1909

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MAX FASS, Local Representative.



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